

Message Text

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61
ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMS-03 PM-07 SS-20 SPC-03 PER-05 INR-10

ABF-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 RSC-01 /069 R

DRAFTED BY AF/RA:AJNAVEZ:PCS:HRB

APPROVED BY AF-DEASUM

AF:CGROSS

AF/W:HWALKER

M/MS - MR. MAYS

PM/ISP - MR. BROWN

AF/W:RSHERWOOD

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O 220156Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:MASS LI

SUBJECT:STRENGTH ADJUSTMENTS IN MILITARY MISSION

REFERENCE: MONROVIA 1606

FROM EASUM FOR AMBASSADOR

1. FURTHER USEFUL BACKGROUND TO ISSUE HAS BEEN SENT YOU
IN WALKER/MANFULL LETTER DATED MARCH 18.

2. I REGRET THAT WE ARE NOT YET ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH
SUBSTANTIVE REPLY TO MONROVIA 1382. ISSUE OF POSSIBLE CUTS
IN MILITARY MISSIONS ON A WORLD-WIDE BASIS REMAINS UNDER
STUDY IN DOD AND DEPARTMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY OR
INFORMALLY GIVEN ANY INDICATION OF WHAT DOD MAY ULTIMATELY
PROPOSE. WE UNDERSTAND UNOFFICIALLY THAT THERE ARE AT
LEAST THREE DIFFERENT CUT PROPOSALS CIRCULATING IN DOD AND
THAT SECDEF PERSONALLY IS INVOLVED IN EFFORT. CINCEUR'S
PLANNING IS POSSIBLY COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO SIMILAR STUDIES
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UNDERWAY IN DOD.

3. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH POLITICO-MILITARY AFFAIRS
AND MANAGEMENT STAFF (BOTH OF WHICH HAVE INITIAL ACTION
RESPONSIBILITIES ON ASPECTS OF THE WORLD-WIDE ISSUE) TO FIND
WAY TO GET DOD TO FURNISH DEPARTMENT WITH ITS EVEN TENTATIVE

PROPOSALS ASAP. OUR AIM REMAINS TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO
MAKE SUBSTANTIVE INPUT ON ISSUE WHICH WE CLEARLY SEE AS OF
FOREIGN POLICY SIGNIFICANCE. WE ALSO WISH TO ENSURE THAT
WE HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO SOLICIT YOUR CONSIDERED VIEWS
OF WHATEVER DOD MAY PROPOSE.

4. I BELIEVE YOU SHOULD WITHHOLD YOUR FORMAL COMMENTS ON
ANY PROPOSED CHANGES IN COMPOSITION OF YOUR STAFF UNTIL
YOU HEAR FROM DEPARTMENT, ALTHOUGH YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER
FLOATING THE IDEA THAT NUMBER OF LIBMISH PERSONNEL SHOULD
NOT BE SOLELY RELATED TO SIZE OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM. SUCH A CABLE WITHOUT RESTRICTED DISTRIBUTION
MIGHT BE USEFUL IN INFLUENCING DOD EARLY IN PLANNING
PROCESS. KISSINGER

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